

FWS must ensure all available information is reviewed by an objective scientific panel per the July 1, 1994 FWS Notice of Policy for ESA Peer Review and the Colorado Conservation Agreement before a determination is made.

Given these factors, the FWS must thoroughly consider whether the proposal "presents substantial scientific and commercial information to demonstrate the petitioned action may be warranted." (16 USC 1531) Nothing in this listing supports the conclusion that the plover is threatened by extinction in the near future. As a result, the only decision the FWS can reach is to decline listing the mountain plover as threatened under the federal ESA. I therefore restate my opposition to this listing.

#### CONSEQUENCES FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1501) to provide grants to ensure increased accountability for juvenile offenders:

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Chairman, I am very disappointed that many of my colleagues voted for the McCollum amendment yesterday. However, we can right this wrong by supporting the Conyers-Scott substitute.

This substitute is fundamentally right because juvenile delinquents will not be jailed with adult criminals. In fact, when you compare New York youth who were prosecuted in adult court with youth with similar charges and prior records in New Jersey who were prosecuted in juvenile court—convictions were no more likely in adult court, punishment was imposed less swiftly, incarceration was less likely, and sentences were nearly identical.

This substitute is fundamentally right because it requires states to address the issue of minority confinement. Minority children are 1/3 of the youth population, but 2/3 of the children in long-term facilities. Studies indicate that minority youth receive tougher sentences and are more likely to be put in jail than non-minority youth for the same offenses.

The substitute is fundamentally right because it would place 20,000 crisis prevention counselors in schools and fund crisis prevention programs—which brings me to an issue that goes hand-in-hand with juvenile justice—the need for educational programs to make sure our children are not getting involved in criminal behavior in the first place.

Research has demonstrated that aggressive prevention programs and alternatives to incarceration are most effective in reducing crime.

In fact, when asked to rank the long-term effectiveness of possible crime fighting approaches, a majority of police chiefs picked "increasing investments in programs that help all children and youth get a good start" as "most effective"—nearly four times as often as "trying juveniles as adults."

Children in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring programs showed that children par-

ticipating in the program were 46% less likely to initiate drug use.

Cincinnati's violence prevention programs resulted in a 24% drop in crime.

A similar gang-reduction program in Ft. Worth, Texas, resulted in a 26% drop in gang-related crime.

We need to fight crime by putting more monies into education and crime prevention programs like the ones I mentioned and—after-school programs.

The majority of juvenile crimes take place between 3 pm to 6 pm. We need to have enough educational activities after-school to keep our youth mentally busy.

We need more after-school jobs for our youth. I would like to see the President and Congress develop AmeriCorps' programs for high school students throughout the year.

We need to invest in our youth's present so they can have a bright future—without ever facing the juvenile justice system.

#### CONGRATULATING THERESA SUTTON AS ILLINOIS POSTMASTER OF THE YEAR

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I take this time to congratulate Theresa Sutton from Brighton, Illinois for the National Association of Postmasters of the United States naming her Postmaster of the Year for the state of Illinois.

The small community postmaster responded to the award, "I have some dedicated employees that really work hard. That makes my job a lot easier." Theresa Sutton will meet in Washington, D.C. along with award recipients from other states in order to meet with Representatives and Senators about postal issues.

I commend her dedication and service to the United States Postal Service. With the necessity for efficient postal services, I am comforted that the 20th District has quality postmasters like Theresa Sutton.

#### CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES DR. ROBERT ANGELO

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the accomplishments of Dr. Robert Angelo and his contributions to the community. Over the course of the last twenty-five years, Dr. Angelo has worked as a consultant, teacher, advisor, and advocate.

Dr. Angelo served for eight years as the International Director of the AFSCME International Union, the largest public employee organization in the AFL-CIO. As director, he worked throughout the United States organizing campaigns, negotiations, and public events. Dr. Angelo continues to work as a labor arbitrator for the New Jersey State Board of Mediation, and is called upon by pri-

vate and public sector management to adjudicate disputes arising from collective bargaining agreements.

An educator with a long and commendable career, Dr. Angelo received his B.A. in Economics from Colgate University, an MBA from Drexel University, and has been recently conferred with a doctorate from Rutgers University in Education. He began his career as a college administrator at Middlesex County College in central New Jersey where he was responsible for directing the nationally recognized Occupational Safety and Health training project. At Thomas Edison State College, Dr. Angelo served as a mentor and consultant in the Labor Studies and Organizational Behavior departments. He later was a lecturer and extension faculty member in the School of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers University, where he taught graduate and undergraduate-level classes.

In 1993, Dr. Angelo founded Capitol Ideas, a multi-service consulting organization dedicated to organizational advocacy and promotion. Capitol Ideas works with a variety of private, public, and non-profit groups to design and implement political, educational, and promotional programs.

Dr. Angelo lives with his wife, Meryle, in East Brunswick, New Jersey. He currently represents SEIU State Council, SEIU Local 510, and IFPTE 195, and continues to work as the CEO of Capitol Ideas and a Professor of Labor Studies at Rutgers University.

Dr. Robert Angelo has demonstrated dedication to his goals and to the community. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Angelo's accomplishments.

#### HONORING THE SPECIAL GRADUATES OF MIDDLE SCHOOL 88

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, It is with great pride that I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating special graduates of the 12th Congressional District of New York. I am certain that this day marks the culmination of much effort and hard work which has led and will lead them to continued success. In these times of uncertainty, limited resources, and random violence in our communities and schools, it is encouraging to know that they have overcome these obstacles and succeeded.

These students have learned that education is priceless. They understand that education is the tool to new opportunities and greater endeavors. Their success is not only a tribute to their strength but also to the support they have received from their parents and loved ones.

In closing, I encourage all my colleagues to support the education of the youth of America. With a solid education, today's youth will be tomorrow's leaders. And as we approach the new millennium, it is our responsibility to pave the road for this great Nation's future. Members of the U.S. House of Representatives I ask you to join me in congratulating the following Academic Achievement Award Recipients: Marilyn Li and Daniel Ortiz.